

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim 14 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Huang; claims 16 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Huang in view of Mena.

Claim 17 has been amended to include the limitation of claim 14 and is now allowable.

The Huang patent (U.S. 6,437,399 B1) in Figure 12 illustrates a channel region that extends from the edge of the N⁺ diffusion region 16 laterally under the gate 26 to the N type drain region. The P⁺ diffusion region 35 described by the examiner is positioned solely under the N⁺ source region 16 and does not extend under the channel region. This is clearly shown in Figure 12. Claim 14 of the instant invention contains the limitation of a p-type buried body diffusion (that is equivalent to the region 35 in Huang as described by the examiner) which underlies said channel. Even a casual reading of claim 14 would indicate that this limitation is clearly stated in the claim itself. Applicant is therefore confused by the insistence of the examiner that such a limitation is not present in claim 14. The limitation is not present in the Huang patent and claim 14 and its dependent claims 16, 17, and 18 are allowable under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) over the Huang patent.

Claims 16 and 18 depend from claim 14 and contain the limitations of claim 14. The Mena patent (U.S. 4,922,327) does not disclose the required limitations of claim 16 and 18 including the limitation of a p-type buried body diffusion which underlies said channel. As such the Mena patent cannot be properly combined with the Huang patent to form a proper rejection of claims 16 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Claims 16 and 18 are therefore allowable over the cited art.

Applicants appreciate the indication that claim 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In light of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

While it is believed that the instant amendment places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Texas Instruments Incorporated, Account No. 20-0668.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter K. McLarty', followed by a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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